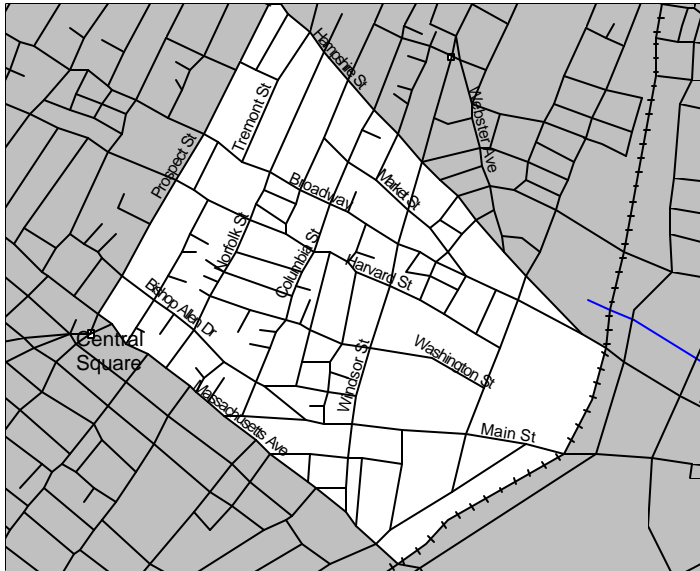
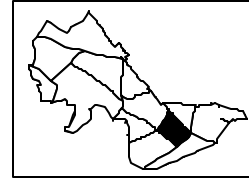


# NEIGHBORHOOD 4

## AREA 4



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

**POPULATION:** 6,560 residents  
2,523 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$24,665

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and parts of Central square walking route 10X.

### 2002 SECOND QUARTER REVIEW

As the numbers below indicate, all of the crimes reviewed have increased by a substantial amount. • Fourteen **street robberies** occurred during the second quarter, which were evenly split between the first and second three months of 2002. Four of the more recent thefts took place over the weekend, between the hours of 3AM and 6AM. Knives were brandished in four of the total seventeen incidents, handguns were shown in three, and both weapons were produced in one additional robbery. • All of the **drug arrests** (+17%) in Area 4 during the first six months of 2002 were for street level sale of crack cocaine and marijuana. Although there were only seven separate incidents, they resulted in the arrests of 12 different people - 7 of whom were not Cambridge residents. • The number of **housebreaks** more than doubled during this time period, part of a citywide trend, resulting in three arrests. Clusters of breaks occurred along Harvard St., Norfolk St., and Newtowne Ct. during the past three months. • An increase of 150% in **auto theft** was registered during the first six months of 2002, and resulting in two arrests. • Along with the increase of auto thefts, **larcenies from motor vehicles** have seen a spike from this time last year. Perpetrators favor motor vehicles that have items displayed in plain view such as cell phones, cash, and laptops. Car stereos with CD players have recently become a favored item throughout the city. • **Malicious destruction** (-4%) saw the greatest increase from 23 to 61 reported incidents in 2002. Graffiti is concentrated along Columbia Street and near the 200 block of Harvard Street. Analysis of arrest data for this crime indicates the major offender is a local juvenile or a homeless person traversing the neighborhood. •

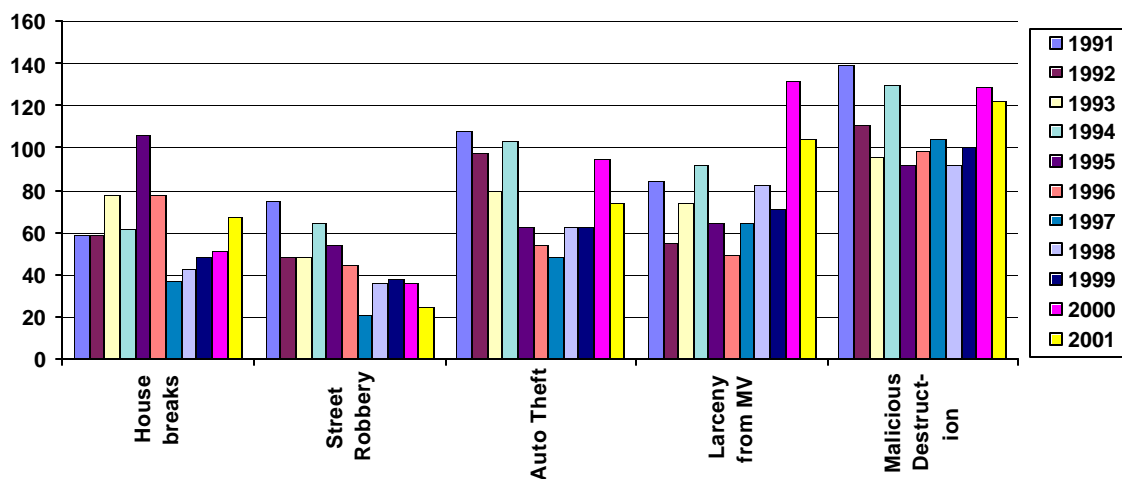
### COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS SECOND QUARTER 2001 & 2002

CRIME	2nd Q 2001	2nd Q 2002	% CHANGE
Housebreaks	13	22	+ 69%
Street Robbery	7	14	+ 100%
Auto Theft	10	25	+ 150%
Larceny from MVs	9	23	+ 156%
Malicious Destruction	23	61	+ 165%
Drug Arrests	6	7	+ 17%

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a primarily residential population (slightly less than average for the city's neighborhoods) along with a series of commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue. It is characterized by two and three family houses, large apartment buildings, and two public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms).

- The highest levels of street robbery and drug arrests have historically plagued area 4. Street robbery generally occurs after 9:00 P.M. on weekends. Many of these incidents are located in or near Central Square—a “hot spot” because of its high pedestrian traffic, its MBTA subway stop, and its proximity to the Cambridgeport bars. Other hot spots for both crimes include Bishop Allen Drive, Washington Street, Harvard Street, Windsor Street, and Broadway. In recent years, community crime watches, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit have succeeded in dispersing many of the drug incidents away from the residential areas.
- **Housebreaks** are higher than average in Area 4. The neighborhood is a target because of its densely packed residential population. The Crime Analysis Unit generally identifies two or three patterns a year that sweep both Mid-Cambridge and Area 4.
- Automobile related crimes such as **auto theft**, **larceny from motor vehicles**, and **malicious destruction of property** are average to slightly higher than average for a neighborhood of Area 4's population. All three crimes, however, have registered general decreases since the 1980s.
- Sennott Park, at night, has experienced problems with drug use, assault, and bicycle theft. Cambridge Police “Park and Walks” in the area have helped abate these crimes.



ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES					
Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2001*
Housebreaks	101	5	59	4	2
Street Robbery	75	1	48	1	2
Auto Theft	147	3	78	3	2
Larceny from MVs	134	2	77	4	1
Malicious Destruction	131	3	109	4	2

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest